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UNCLAS KINSHASA 000192

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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [KPKO](#) [MOPS](#) [CG](#)

SUBJECT: MONUC PROVIDES UPDATE ON MILITARY ACTIVITIES

REF: KINSHASA 101

11. (SBU) Due to recent actions by armed groups (reftel) and the high level of MONUC activity in response, MONUC spokesperson included an extended briefing on MONUC military activities in the east during the weekly MONUC press conference held on February 1. Main points follow:

NORTH KIVU  
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12. (SBU) According to MONUC, the situation in Rutshuru remains tense but under control. On January 30, insurgents launched a new attack against FARDC positions at Rwindi. After several hours, and running short of munitions, the FARDC fled toward Kanyabayonga. From Kanyabayonga, elements of the 2nd Indian Battalion, reinforced by South African troops, supported FARDC companies to take back control of Rwindi within several hours. Also on January 30, 43 insurgents from Magenba, located between Rutshuru and Rwindi, were intercepted by a patrol of the MONUC 1st Indian Battalion who encouraged them to rejoin the brassage process. In the past week, a company of the First Indian Battalion stationed at Rutshuru returned to the FARDC munitions abandoned by insurgents on December 22 at Rwindi.

13. (SBU) Also in North Kivu, MONUC on January 27 repatriated to Uganda 10 ADF/NALU ex-combatants and three children associated with the group. The ex-combatants returned to Uganda aboard a MONUC helicopter via Beni and Bunia, accompanied by a member of the Ugandan Amnesty Commission. This was the first group of ADF/NALU repatriated to Uganda since the military operations of December 2005 saw the dismantling of 14 camps of the foreign armed group.

14. (SBU) Deputy SRSG Haile Menkerios visited North Kivu and met with political leaders, community representatives, civil society members, and religious leaders and called for calm in the region.

SOUTH KIVU  
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15. (SBU) A joint MONUC/FARDC operation January 26 retook control of two villages, Mukungwe and Cizi, in Walungu territory. The village had been occupied by FDLR militia who fled without a fight.

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16. (SBU) Nepalese and Pakistani battalions supported FARDC in the final phase of Operation Encourage for control of the village of Tchei and Kodheja. The Pakistani battalion established a medical camp at Aveba which will provide care to 1500 IDPs.

KATANGA  
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17. (SBU) Three MONUC companies have been deployed in Katanga: 180 South Africans to Lubumbashi and Kolwezi, 150 Uruguayans to Kalemie, and 180 additional South Africans to Kalemie who will move to Manono on February 3.  
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